

ORAL HEALTH ADVISORY COMMITTEE
December 2, 2005
MINUTES

COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT

Patricia Craddock, DDS, Chairperson, Nevada Dental Association
Sharon Peterson, RDH, M.Ed, State Board of Dental Examiners
Mark Rosenberg, DDS, MPH
Tyree Davis, DDS, Clinical Manager, Miles for Smiles
Victor A. Sandoval, MPH, DDS, Professor, University of Nevada Las Vegas (UNLV) School of Dental Medicine
Michelle Kling, RN, Division Director, Washoe County District Health Department (WCDHD)

COMMITTEE MEMBERS ABSENT

Joseph Patero, Senior Advocate
Carol White, Ed.D, Principal, Rainshadow Community Charter High School
Carole Mankey, RN, Public Health Nurse Supervisor, Clark County Health District (CCHD)
Mike Johnson, LADC, BS, Saint Mary's Outreach Programs
Betty Pate, RDH, M.Ed, University and Community College System of Nevada (UCCSN), Nevada Dental Hygienists' Association
Diana Scavacini, Marketing Specialist, WB/Azteca

NEVADA STATE HEALTH DIVISION STAFF PRESENT

Chris Forsch, RDH, BS, Health Program Specialist 2, Bureau of Family Health Services (BFHS)
Dennis Murphy, Public Health Education (PHE) and Information Officer (IO), BFHS
Thara Salamone, Biostatistician, BFHS
Lori Cofano, RDH, Fluoridation Consultant, BFHS
Laurie Nickles, Health Educator
Deborah Aquino, Evaluation Consultant, BFHS
Tami Terstege, Administrative Assistant 4

OTHERS PRESENT

Charles Duarte, Nevada Medicaid Administrator, Department of Health Care Financing and Policy (DHCFP)
Julie Stage, RDH, Dental Hygiene Professor at Truckee Meadows Community College Dental Hygiene Program
Cecilia Dahlgren, Director of EOB Head Start Program

CALL TO ORDER

Dr. Patricia Craddock called the Oral Health Advisory Committee (OHAC) to order at **9:15 am** at Truckee Meadows Community College (TMCC)-Meadowood in Reno and the Community College of Southern Nevada (CCSN)-Cheyenne in Las Vegas. This was a public meeting and the public was invited to make comments. In accordance with the Nevada Open Meeting Law, this meeting was posted at the following locations: Bureau of Family Health Services (BFHS), Carson City; Kinhead Building, Carson City; Nevada State Library and Archives, Carson City; Washoe County District Health Department (WCDHD), Reno; Clark County Health District (CCHD), Las Vegas; Elko Nursing Office, Elko; TMCC, Reno; CCSN, Las Vegas; and the Nevada State Health Division website at www.health2k.state.nv.us.

Introductions were made around the table.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF JUNE 10, 2005

Dr. Craddock stated a correction on page eight, last paragraph, fifth line from the bottom; it should state the course would take fourteen weeks instead of seven. No approval as no quorum.

REPORT FROM THE DIVISION OF HEALTH CARE FINANCING AND POLICY (DHFCP) REGARDING PROVIDER RECRUITMENT AND THE STATUS OF THE MEDICAID DENTAL CLINICAL REVIEW ADVISORY SUBCOMMITTEE. POSSIBLE COMMITTEE ACTION IN RESPONSE.

Chuck Duarte reported the initiation of a plan to expand dental care services for Medicaid and Nevada √ Check Up participants in Clark County, essentially asking the HMO's to contract with private practitioners. He stated he received information from a number of private practitioners in the Clark County area who are extremely interested in taking Medicaid patients. Senate Bill 133 is working from the standpoint of increasing the number of dentists in the state by bringing in new providers and expanding dental access. He stated both of the managed care plans have not had any problems in recruiting private dentists in Southern Nevada. Health Plan of Nevada (HPN), which has approximately 50,000 enrollees in the state for Medicaid and NV √ Check Up, added 170 dentists. Of those dentists 3 are endodontists, 148 are in general dental practice, 8 are oral surgeons and 11 are periodontists. There were 113 sites opened up thorough the network. Nevada Care, the other HMO provides medical and dental care, added 116 dentists, of whom 2 are endodontists, 100 are general dentists, 6 are oral surgeons, and 8 are periodontist. It is unclear how much of an overlap there is between the two networks. Mr. Duarte stated the University of Nevada, Las Vegas School of Dental Medicine remains a member of Nevada Care Dental Network (NCDN). HPN utilization is up 86% since July 2005. Dental Managed Care will be introduced in Washoe County at some point with one incumbent and one new HMO, which won the statewide contract for Medicaid Managed Care (MMC). HPN was awarded a contract for Dental Managed Care for southern and northern Nevada. A new entity, Well Point who is partners with Anthem, will be doing business in Nevada and will provide value added services to members.

Mr. Duarte indicated Nevada Care did not get the bid so the only HMO's in Nevada will be Health Plan and HMO-Nevada for both medical and dental. The bid was awarded early in November but the contracts still need to be finalized and go to the board of examiners; any of the loosing proposers have 10 calendar days to appeal the decision taken. Dr. Mark Rosenberg asked if this change would affect current Medicaid providers such as Health Access Washoe County (HAWC), Community Health Centers and Saint Mary's. Mr. Duarte stated they would be required to contract with the two current HMOs. HMOs are required to negotiate in good faith with essential community providers such as HAWC, Nevada Health Centers and UNLV School of Dental Medicine. Dental providers accepting Medicaid would now also have to contract with HMO-Nevada. There had been a serious problem with dental access in northern Nevada for a long time and programs such as Saint Mary's and Northern Nevada Dental Society have helped address the problem but it has not been enough. Dental HMO in northern Nevada is new and will help provide more dental care access. Ms. Forsch asked Dr. Tyree Davis if it is correct that all though Nevada Health Centers is contracted with the HMOs, they still receive full Medicaid reimbursement and not a negotiated rate. Dr. Davis stated it is his understanding they do have to negotiate, but was unsure. Ms. Forsch informed Mr. Duarte of the new HMO, HMO-Nevada, paying less then Medicaid rates.

Mr. Duarte informed of new providers opening clinics in northern Nevada. DeRose Dental from Colorado opened a clinic in the Reno/Sparks area, Small Smiles; it has four dentists and has booked approximately 1100 Medicaid and Nevada √ Check Up recipients for dental services. With more providers moving into the area, there are hopes more providers will be interested in contracting with the Dental Managed Care Plan.

Mr. Duarte informed Sharon Peterson any one can contract with Medicaid as long as they meet the licensure requirements to provide its service. If providers would like to serve family groups, which

include low-income mothers; low-income children; low-income families, those groups are enrolled in the Managed Care Program and constitutes 70 percent of Medicaid's population. If programs want to perform services to children in schools, they would have to be part of the HMO plan. He noted the open enrollment beginning in May. During the open enrollment period, current recipients of HPN can decide to stay with HPN or switch to HMO-Nevada and recipients of Nevada Care will need to make a choice of which HMO plan they would like to go with.

Laurie Nickles asked if the Medicaid application for private practice dentists would be simplified. Ms. Forsch informed Ms. Nickles Medicaid cannot change the form but there are questions on the form that are not applicable to a dental provider. Medicaid will fill out a sample form and send it to the Nevada Dental Association (NDA) and post it on the NDA web site. Mr. Duarte informed if a dentist contracts with an HMO, they must also have a Medicaid provider agreement. Dr. Craddock thanked Mr. Duarte.

COMITTEE DISCUSSION OF ORAL HEALTH PROGRAM REPORT AND DIRECTION TO PROGRAM

Goal One. To Maintain Oral Health program Leadership Capacity

Ms. Forsch announced Lori Cofano applied for the Fluoridation Consultant position which had opened to become a permanent state position. Ms. Forsch informed Ms. Kling the job description required the individual to be a dental hygienist with an active Nevada license, have experience in fluoridation education, reporting and monitoring. Ms. Forsch stated Dr. Michael Sanders is no longer identified as the State Dental Consultant but as a Dental Consultant to the program. Dr. Sander's job description would remain the same. Ms. Forsch stated Mary Knight is no longer with the program and her position is currently vacant.

Goal Two. To Describe The Oral Health Disease Burden Health Disparities And Unmet Needs In The State

Thara Salamone informed the senior screenings report had been written and can be found on the program's web site and will be available in hard copy.

Goal Three. To Update A Comprehensive Five-Year State Oral Health Plan

Ms Forsch informed the State Oral Health Summit Planning Committee would have its first meeting and was decided it would be a one day meeting; the morning would be devoted to reporting out from the six oral health coalitions, and the afternoon would have two concurrent continuing education sessions. One will target non-dental providers and the other would target dental providers. The non-dental would focus on community health nurses, school nurses, etc. The sessions would include information on oral screenings, oral cancer, caries and how to recognize meth mouth since Nevada had the worst methamphetamine use in the nation. Ms. Forsch informed 20 percent of high school students in Nevada have experimented with methamphetamines. The dental provider session would be focused on education on meth mouth for dental providers. After the two concurrent sessions there will be a continuing education about disaster preparedness for oral health providers. The meeting would be held on Friday, September 29, 2006, and would take place either in Reno, Elko or Las Vegas. There will be a registration fee, however there will be stipends available to help cover travel and registration cost for individuals who otherwise would not be able to attend. Ms. Forsch informed they are CEU providers for nurses but not for physicians. Ms. Nickles will be sending all committee members a disk of the educational program.

Goal Four. To Sustain A Diverse Statewide Oral Health Coalition To Assist In Formulation Of Plans, Guide Projects And Identify Additional Financial Resources

Ms. Forsch informed she and Terry Chandler will be continuing to working closely with the coalition in Clark County. Ms Chandler will also be helping with the Central Nevada Oral Health coalition which includes Lincoln, Mineral, Nye and Esmeralda Counties. Ms. Cofano and Ms. Nickles will start working with Rota Rosaschi who is the chairperson for the Carson Douglas coalition to help expand

membership and provide support. Recently the Lyon County Healthy Smiles Board disbanded so Debbie Aquino will start a coalition in the Lyon, Storey, Pershing, and Churchill County area. Ms. Salamone and Dennis Murphy will start working with the Northeast Coalition for Oral Health. The plan is to provide more support to the coalitions.

Ms. Peterson clarified the Community College of Southern Nevada (CCSN) is looking to go into rural areas using volunteer hygienists from the Nevada Dental Hygienists' Association, but there are students who cannot go out of the Clark County area. The students would not be going but will be using the equipment when the students are on rotation in the spring semester. Ms. Forsch informed Dr. Rosenberg the 1DAY Program does not see insured children; it is only for uninsured children.

Ms. Forsch informed there is \$9,000 dollars carry over from last years grant. An idea on how to utilize the money would be to bring in someone to do a workshop with the coalitions on how to build and strengthen a coalition. Another idea would be to fund a grant-writing workshop for coalition members. Depending on how much money these workshops would cost, both ideas will be looked into.

Goal Five. To Enhance The Oral Disease Surveillance System By Continuing To Collect, Analyze And Disseminate Data To Support Program Activity

Ms. Forsch stated the senior survey had presented major challenges. The quality of data based on amount of effort put into the cost shows it had been ineffective. Ms. Forsch stated her interest in replacing the senior surveillance with information on oral health needs of individuals with special needs. She spoke of states doing an oral health needs assessment on individuals with special needs during the Special Olympics as a venue. Dr. Sandoval described the participation of Special Smiles at last years Special Olympics that received very little attention from individuals who attended. Dr. Craddock noted the segment of the population of individuals with special needs who attend the Special Olympics is very limited. Dr. Davis asked Ms. Forsch to elaborate as to what is being done to collect senior data and if the difficulties of collecting the data are still being dealt with. Ms. Forsch stated the collection of data on a target population is done once every three years with a rotation of the senior screenings done one year, third grade screenings done the following year and the Head Start screenings done the year after. Ms. Salamone stated the Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance Survey (BRFSS) has five questions asked to adults. Three of those questions are required by the Centers for Disease Control & Prevention and cannot be changed. The other two are added by choice. She asked for input or ideas as to what the other two questions should be. Ms. Forsch asked Ms. Salamone to send an email out to all of OHAC with the five questions stating which ones are the three core questions and which are the two optional questions and to provide input or suggestions as to what the optional questions should be.

Ms. Forsch informed of the acquisition of a colorimeter to test for natural occurring fluoride in water. Ideas were discussed over the use of the colorimeter towards collecting data. Ms. Forsch stated a number of dentists are unaware the water in Clark County is fluoridated and are still prescribing fluoride supplements. Ms. Cofano stated she had asked the water systems in Las Vegas to insert information on individuals' water bills stating the water in Clark County is fluoridated. Ms. Cofano stated one of the problems in getting an accurate range of fluoride in water is it varies range within a county itself. Dr. Rosenberg stated the initial purpose of the colorimeter was to look into fluoridation of small communities water systems around the state. Ms. Salamone stated based on CDC's cost saving estimates on fluoridation in Clark County, it costs .20 cents per person a year for fluoridation; each dollar spent on fluoridation saves 38 dollars on dental services; last year, 12.8 million dollars were saved on dental expense in Clark County. Ms. Forsch stated children in the Head Start Program in Clark County had 15% less tooth decay than children in the Washoe County Program.

Goal Six. To Identify Prevention Opportunities For Systematic, Socio-political And/Or Policy Change To Improve Oral Health By Conducting A Periodic Assessment Of Policy And Systems Level Strategies with Potential To Reduce Oral Disease

Ms. Forsch informed of Senator Joe Heck and Assemblyman Joe Hardy are upset with the decision of the State Board of Dental Examiners to approve the provision of voluntary services for a portion of continuing education. Senator Heck and Assemblyman Hardy would like the board to reverse the ruling, as they believe continuing education awarded for voluntary service is inappropriate. Dr. Rosenberg, chairperson of the Coalition for Underserved Population (CUSP), sent a letter to all members of the committee expressing CUSPs support for continuing education for voluntary service. Ms. Forsch suggested it would be beneficial for members of OHAC to send a letter as well.

Ms. Forsch stated it would cost 1.5 million dollars to add adult dental benefits to Medicaid coverage. She stated Medicaid cannot ask the legislature for this implementation but it could be done by interested parties such as OHAC, CUSP and CTOH. Ms. Forsch stated Carlos Brandenburg, Administrator for the Division of Mental Health had approached legislature about adding adult dental benefits to Medicaid.

Ms. Forsch stated Medicaid eligibility issues are determined by Welfare, not by Medicaid. If eligibility changes were needed, the parties interested would have to work with Welfare. Dr. Craddock stated the Nevada Dental Association wanted to become active with Medicaid reform.

Ms. Forsch stated she had received a list from Medicaid of dentists who have signed up with the two HMO plans in southern Nevada. She stated the HMO provider list would be sent to all members of OHAC. A list of dental providers in the Central Nevada Coalition area stating which providers accept Medicaid and which do not will be sent to Ms. Peterson and Dr. Davis.

Goal Seven. To Develop and Coordinate Partnerships To Increase State Level And Community Capacity To Address Specific Oral Disease Prevention Intervention

Ms. Forsch reported Laurie Nickles continued to provide oral health education and would like suggestions as to what topics to educate or expand on. Ms. Peterson suggested educating practitioners in private practice or health care providers in recognizing meth mouth. Dr. Rosenberg suggested an education program in schools on the importance of mouth guards to prevent dental sport injuries. Ms. Nickles informed of the unwillingness of the school system to permit an educational dental program in schools. She informed of the possibility of doing a statewide educational campaign on dental health for pregnant woman.

Goal Eight. To Coordinate And Implement A Limited Community Water Fluoridation Program

Ms. Forsch stated there was nothing new to comment on at this time.

Goal Nine. To Evaluate, Document And Share State Program Accomplishments, Best Practices, Lessons Learned And Use Of Evaluation Results

Ms. Forsch expressed her gratitude towards those who sent in comments about the revised environmental assessment questionnaire. The comments made will help provide a more effective tool for collecting data. Ms. Forsch stated perhaps using the environmental assessment tool with the coalition or in combination with the next State Oral Health Summit. She asked if it would be a good idea to see if coalition members would be willing to complete and give feed back. Ms. Forsch asked Ms. Aquino to contact the chairpersons of the coalitions to see if the coalition members would agree to collaborate.

Goal Ten. To Develop, Coordinate And Implement Limited School-Based Or School Linked Dental Sealant Programs

Ms. Forsch informed the Miles for Smiles Program is interested in taking over the administration of the Seal Nevada North Program whose contract with Saint Mary's has been terminated. She noted Mr.

Murphy had drafted a scope of work and had reviewed it with Terry Clark and sent it to Steve Hansen for his review as well. Ms. Forsch thanked the Nevada Dental Hygienist's Association for donating the van, in which all the equipment is transported, to the organization the contract is awarded. The program would be based in Elko and would focus on the five counties in the northeast. Miles for Smiles indicated they would consider expanding to other counties if the numbers needed were not met.

COMMITTEE DISCUSSION OF THE OHAC DISABILITIES SUBCOMMITTEE REPORT AND DIRECTION TO THE SUBCOMMITTEE

Dr. Craddock stated she met with the staff of the Dental School about the appropriate protocol and etiquette of treating and managing special needs individuals and did a two-hour presentation with their second year class at Steve Hackmeyer's request. She started a full semester program with 75 fourth year dental students. She meets with them one hour a week for lecture and the students do one rotation at the surgical center so they can see how they manage the special needs population. The goal for this is to get individuals in the fourth year class to want to treat the special needs population.

Ms. Forsch informed the OHAC disability committee is scheduled to meet towards the end of the month and was able to obtain the tools used in California to do a survey needs assessment for the special needs population.

COMMITTEE CALENDAR. DETERMINE DATE FOR FUTURE MEETINGS

Ms. Forsch suggested the next OHAC meeting be held on Friday, February 24, 2006. The location of the meeting will be determined at a later date.

PUBLIC COMMENTS AND DISCUSSION

Cecilia Dahlgren stated the Head Start Program was looking for more providers to work with the children and would like information to educate their parents on oral health. Ms. Forsch informed Ms. Dahlgren of the Oral Health Coalition in Southern Nevada having a Head Start committee which had developed educational material and are working on developing a memorandum of understanding with Head Start and the Pediatric Dental Residency Program in Las Vegas.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at **11:55 am.**